

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 COME-00
HA-05 EB-08 /117 W
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R 231120Z JAN 78
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5551
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
USUN NEW YORK 1683
CINCPAC
CINCEUR
CINCUSNAVEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 ISLAMABAD 0759

MILITARY ADDRESSEES FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PK, PEPR, ET
SUBJECT: PAKISTAN AND THE HORN OF AFRICA

SUMMARY: DURING MEETING ON JANUARY 23, MFA AFRICA DIRECTOR MADE
FOLLOWING POINTS: PAKISTAN IS SELLING SMALL AMOUNTS OF LOCALLY
PRODUCED LIGHT ARMS AND AMMUNITION TO SOMALIA, SOVS CONTINUE -- IN
VAIN -- TO REQUEST OVERFLIGHT PERMISSION, AND GOP OFFICIQLS WERE
HIGHLY IMPRESSED WITH SOMALI PRESIDENT BARRE DURING HIS VISIT TO
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PAKISTAN. DIRECTOR ALSO REPEATED MAIN POINTS FROM BARRE'S
PRESENTATION TO GOP. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING INFORMAL DISCUSSION JANUARY 23 WITH EMBOFF, MFA DIRECTOR
(AFRICA) SHAUKAT FAREED MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS CONCERNING THE
HORN OF AFRICA.

2. PAKISTAN MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA; FAREED NOTED THAT PAKISTAN HAS RECENTLY SOLD LIGHT ARMS AND AMMUNITION TO SOMALIA. HE DID NOT INDICATE THE TOTAL VALUE OF THE SALE BUT DID NOTE THAT "OUR RESOURCES ARE EXTREMELY LIMITED AND THE SOMALIA NEED IS CONSIDERABLE." HE REITERATED THAT NONE OF THE EQUIPMENT SENT TO SOMALIA IS US ORIGIN OR MANUFACTURED IN PAKISTAN UNDER US LICENSE.

3. SOVIET OVERFLIGHTS; FAREED SAID THAT THE USSR AND SEVERAL EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES CONTINUE TO REQUEST, AND ARE NOT GRANTED, OVERFLIGHT PERMISSION FOR ADDIS OR ADEN. HE SAID THE SOV TIMING IS "EXCELLENT," NOTING THAT ONE OVERFLIGHT REQUEST ARRIVED THE SAME DAY AS SOMALIA PRESIDENT SIAD BARRE. FAREED ADDED THAT STORIES CONTINUE TO APPEAR IN THE SOVIET PRESS, PURPORTEDLY QUOTING THE MEDIA OUTSIDE THE SOVIET UNION, THAT PAKISTAN IS FERRYING CHINESE MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO SOMALIA. HE SAID, "IT IS FUTILE TO ISSUE A DENIAL EVERY TIME, SO WE HAVE STOPPED DOING SO."

4. BARRE VISIT: GOP OFFICIALS (INCLUDING GEN. ZIA) WHO MET BARRE DURING HIS LATE DECEMBER VISIT WERE ALL "HIGHLY IMPRESSED." FAREED SAID PAKISTANIS FOUND BARRE "HONEST, SIMPLE, INTENSE, AND PRINCIPLED." HE THEN OFFERED SYNOPSIS OF PRESENTATION BARRE MADE IN DISCUSSIONS WITH GOP OFFICIALS. FAREED NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH SOME OF BARRE'S CLAIMS "MAY BE SLIGHTLY EXAGGERATED," HE SEEMED VERY SINCERE IN MAKING FOLLOWING POINTS:

--- SOVIET AIRLIFT - BARRE CONTENDED THAT THE SOVIET AIRLIFT TO
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ETHIOPIA WAS CONTINUING. FAREED ADDED THAT ACCORDING TO NON-PAKISTANI AND NON-SOMALI INTELLIGENCE SOURCES, AS OF TWO WEEKS AGO THE AIRLIFT CONTINUED UNABATED WITH SOVS USING UP TO TWENTY PERCENT OF THEIR TOTAL AIRLIFT CAPABILITY.

--- US ROLE - BARRE CONTENDED THAT US HAD BEEN "DECEIVED AND MISLED" BY THE SOVIETS IN THE HORN. US CONTENTION THAT SOVS HAD HAD A BASE IN SOMALIA WAS FALSE AND SHOWED HOW US MISINTERPRETED SOMALI RELATIONS WITH USSR. FAREED ADDED THAT BARRE WAS NOT CRITICAL OF US; RATHER HIS PRESENTATION PAINTED US AS NAIVE AND WITH MISPERCEPTIONS OF THE POLITICAL RELATIONSHIPS IN THE HORN.

--- KENYA - BARRE SAID THAT HIS FOREIGN MINISTER HAD EXPLAINED TO THE KENYANS THAT SOMALIA HAD NO DESIGNS ON KENYAN TERRITORY. SOMALIA COULD NOT BE FORTHCOMING PUBLICLY, HOWEVER, SINCE IT COULD NOT RENOUNCE AN HISTORICAL CLAIM.

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--- OTHER AFRICAN STATES - BARRE TOLD THE PAKS THAT THERE HAS BEEN ONLY MINIMAL CRITICISM OF SOMALIA BY THE OTHER AFRICAN STATES SINCE THEY UNDERSTAND SOMALIA'S CONCERNS AND GOALS. THE SPECIAL NATURE OF THE OGADEN BORDER MADE THE SOMALIA/ETHIOPIA DISPUTE UNIQUE IN THE CONTINENT.

--- RELATIONS WITH THE USSR - BARRE CONTENTED THAT TIES WITH THE USSR WERE NEVER AS CLOSE AS THE AMERICANS SUSPECTED. HE ADDED THAT THERE HAD ALWAYS BEEN STRAINS IN THE RELATIONSHIP SUCH AS SOVIET PRESSURES, WHICH SOMALIA RESISTED, TO "INTERFERE IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES."
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--- OGADEN CONFLICT - BARRE SAID THAT THE "LIBERATION FORCES" COULD HAVE TAKEN HARAR AT ANY TIME BUT DID NOT DO SO FOR TWO REASONS. SINCE THEY DID NOT HAVE HEAVY ARTILLERY, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN DIFFICULT TO HOLD THE CITY. ALSO, HARAR HAS MANY MOSQUES AND

ISLAMIC MONUMENTS, AND ONCE THE CITY WAS LIBERATED, THE ETHIOPIANS WOULD BOMB IT AND DESTROY THE ISLAMIC SITES (AN ARGUMENT OBVIOUSLY DIRECTED TOWARD BARRE'S GOOD MUSLIM HOSTS IN PAKISTAN).

5. AT END OF MEETING, FAREED NOTED "VERY UNOFFICIALLY AND INFORMALLY" THAT HE AND SOME OF HIS COLLEAGUES CAN UNDERSTAND USG HESITANCY TO TRANSFER ARMS DIRECTLY TO SOMALIA. HOWEVER, THEY CONSIDER IT REGRETTABLE THAT WE CANNOT ALLOW THIRD COUNTRY TRANSFERS. EMBOFF NOTED THAT OUR POLICY IS VERY CLEAR IN THAT REGARD - OUR PROHIBITION ON SUPPLYING ARMS TO EITHER SIDE EXTENDS SPECIFICALLY TO THIRD PARTY TRANSFERS.

6. COMMENT: ADDEES WILL REALIZE THAT BARRE'S PRESENTATION IS NOTABLE MORE FOR INGENUITY THAN FOR CANDOR. WHILE PAKISTANIS COULD HARDLY HAVE SWALLOWED WHOLE ALL OF BARRE'S ASSERTIONS, GOP PRO-MUSLIM BIAS AND DESIRE TO BE SUPPORTIVE TO A COUNTRY NOW SUPPORTED BY SAUDIS AND IRANIANS SEEM TO HAVE CAUSED WILLING SUSPENSION OF DISBELIEF.
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TAGS: PEPR, MASS, PK, ET
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